

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-57. (Cancelled)

58. (New) A composite fabric comprising:

a nonwoven web that contains microfolds imparted by creping, the nonwoven web being formed from continuous splittable multicomponent thermoplastic fibers having individual segments exposed on an outer perimeter thereof;

a fibrous material comprising cellulosic fibers, the fibrous material constituting at least about 50% by weight of the fabric; and

wherein the cellulosic fibers are driven into the nonwoven web containing microfolds through hydraulic entanglement.

59. (New) The composite fabric of claim 58, wherein the fibrous material further contains synthetic staple fibers.

60. (New) The composite fabric of claim 59, wherein the synthetic staple fibers comprise between about 10% to about 20% by weight of the fibrous material.

61. (New) The composite fabric of claim 59, wherein the synthetic staple fibers have an average fiber length of between about 0.25 inches to about 0.375 inches.

62. (New) The composite fabric of claim 58, wherein the multicomponent fibers have a configuration selected from the group consisting of circular, square, multilobal, ribbon, and combinations thereof.

63. (New) The composite fabric of claim 58, wherein the multicomponent fibers comprise polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, nylon, and combinations thereof.

64. (New) The composite fabric of claim 58, wherein the multicomponent fibers are continuous spunbonded thermoplastic fibers.

65. (New) The composite fabric of claim 58, wherein the nonwoven web is also mechanically stretched in the machine direction.

66. (New) The composite fabric of claim 65, wherein the nonwoven web is stretched by about 10% to about 100% of its initial length.

67. (New) The composite fabric of claim 65, wherein the nonwoven web is stretched by about 25% to about 75% of its initial length.

68. (New) The composite fabric of claim 58, wherein the fibrous material constitutes from about 60% to about 90% by weight of the fabric.

69. (New) The composite fabric of claim 58, wherein the nonwoven web is bonded prior to entanglement with the fibrous material.

70. (New) A composite fabric comprising:
a nonwoven web that contains microfolds imparted by creping, the nonwoven web being formed from continuous spunbonded multicomponent thermoplastic fibers and individual segments separated therefrom;

a fibrous material comprising pulp fibers, the fibrous material constituting at least about 50% by weight of the fabric; and

wherein the pulp fibers are driven into the nonwoven web containing microfolds through hydraulic entanglement.

71. (New) The composite fabric of claim 70, wherein the nonwoven web has also been mechanically stretched in the machine direction.

72. (New) The composite fabric of claim 71, wherein the nonwoven web has been stretched by about 10% to about 100% of its initial length.

73. (New) The composite fabric of claim 71, wherein the nonwoven web has been stretched by about 25% to about 75% of its initial length.

74. (New) The composite fabric of claim 70, wherein the fibrous material constitutes from about 60% to about 90% by weight of the fabric.

75. (New) The composite fabric of claim 70, wherein the nonwoven web is bonded prior to entanglement with the fibrous material.